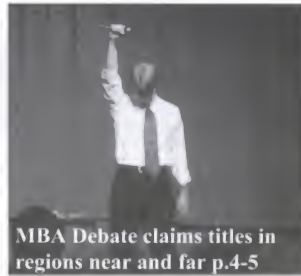




Construction roars ahead of schedule p.2



MBA Debate claims titles in regions near and far p.4-5



MBA Track claims another Title as new Track is dedicated p. 10-11, 12

Montgomery Bell Academy

The Bell Ringer

Montgomery Bell Academy

4001 Harding Road Nashville, TN 37205

April 1999

Volume 55 Number 4

Tough Stance Would Bring Opportunity for Improved Image

By Phillip M. Cox

Hasn't this year been great! We've gotten a new science building, the Massey expansion, state championships in football and cross-country, and, to top it all off, we've managed to lower our reputation as a school of high class, tradition, and integrity!

The shameful events of this year have taken place because the school policy is allowing them. I'm not trying to say that every disciplinary action has been handled incorrectly. The situations seem to have been handled in a very under the table manner. Every violation has been handled according to the handbook. Hey, I have a crazy idea. . .change the handbook! Make sure that the policy is clear. Anyone who gets caught breaking the law at any time of the year must be subjected to the correct punishment.

The first thing to be done should be that no information is to be withheld from the students. Address the problems, sort them out, and deal with them openly. As students of this school, we should have the right to know exactly what is happening. Call a "special assembly" if necessary because we should be informed immediately that our classmates

have decided to embarrass us, defy school policy, and break the law.

For those of you who do not know what MBA's policy is, it states in the handbook "that a problem will not be dealt with unless it is by an MBA student on MBA property or at any MBA school function." It goes on

to say, "any student violating this policy is subject to severe disciplinary sanction, including immediate dismissal from the school." Severe! Last time I looked up severe it did not state, "a slap on the wrist" and a "watch what you do next time." Moreover, an in-school suspension and some demerits is not even close to "immediate dismissal from the school."

If it is severe that you are looking for, then I have an idea: first, each student who is caught breaking the law (please excuse speeding because it is a crime that does not necessitate such reprobation) must stand in front of the school at assembly, admit what he did, and apologize. Secondly, he

is to be suspended for up to one week receiving zero's in every class, every day. Thirdly, he must be removed from any team that is affiliated with MBA for at least the remainder of that school year. Last, but certainly not least, he must go to demerit hall EVERY weekend to work for the rest of the school year. The next time a student decided to break the law, then the handbook should say but one word. . .expulsion. You have had your one chance, you did it again, and now you are gone. No more should a student receive three or four chances based merely on who he is or what he has. MBA should make it clear that we will not stand for such behavior. Make it as difficult as possible for each person to have to live with the choices that he has made.

I understand that by now you are thinking that I am a cruel and cold-hearted person. That does not bother me because what is happening here is wrong. Students should take pride in this school and not want in any way to show disrespect towards it. What one person decides to do on the weekends is his business unless it reflects poorly upon this school. Any student who gets caught breaking the law does just that. No one should stand to have their classmate diminish in any way the

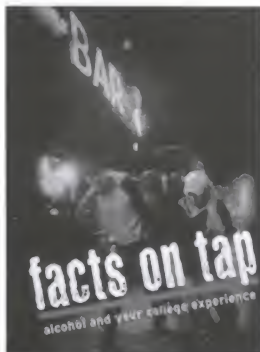
reputation of this school because they got caught breaking the law. To the students who are going to drink: be smart about it, keep it away from the school and the public. If you are not smart about it, then you should be reprimanded. However, to be correctly reprimanded, the policy must change first.

MBA prides itself on the tradition that comes along with being one of the oldest schools in Tennessee. Then there is no reason that our tradition should be tainted because we are not hard enough on the students who break the law. If you want people to frown upon MBA because we

have problems with our students, then fine. If not, then change the policy so that MBA can uphold our motto of, "Gentlemen,

Scholars, and Athletes."

The views of this article do not necessarily reflect the view of The Bell Ringer, the staff, or the administration of Montgomery Bell Academy.



FACE THE
BRUTAL TRUTH
ABOUT UNDERAGE
DRINKING

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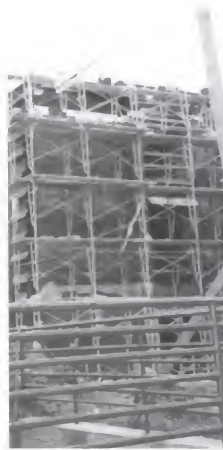
Ingram Science Building, Massey Addition Take Shape

By Johnny Sisk

At the beginning of the 1999-2000 school year, MBA's science department will find itself in a brand new state-of-the-art facility designed to meet its specific needs. Along with a new science building, campus construction also includes the junior school's acquiring a sizeable addition to their own Massey Building, originally opened in 1982. The campus' 1998-99 expansion is the greatest since the 1992 completion of the Joe C. Davis Building. And much like that remarkable facility, the new campus additions will provide ample space and unique opportunities to students and teachers alike.

The completion of both new structures is expected by August 15, 1999, allowing new furniture to be put in both. At this point, while the science building is 2-4 weeks ahead of schedule, the Massey addition is behind in its construction plan. However, by the time the two buildings are completed, they will, no doubt, add much character to the campus.

The E. Bronson Ingram



will display, much like the Davis Building facing it across campus, a colonnade extending the length of the facility. On the other side facing West End, the building will have a number of windows, from which students will be able to view the front of MBA's campus. The brick structure and color should be similar to that of the rest of the structures on campus. Above the windows all around the top the building, prominent scientists' names will be displayed. From

Newton to Einstein, Aristotle to Galileo, a few scientists from different fields (biology, chemistry, physics, etc.) will be exhibited around the building's top.

The building's interior looks to be just as interesting with a long hallway extending the length of the building on the colonnade's side on all three stories. At the end of this hall, a set of cross beams will



level will hold two physics labs and an earth science classroom; the ground level, an IPS/Earth Science room and two chemistry labs; and the upper level, two more chemistry labs and another physics lab. Each room will be designed the same way, all equipped with student desks in the middle of the room, with labs situated around them in a U-shaped formation. Overall, the building will contain 9 classroom/labs, as well as a teacher workroom, and a seminar room holding about fifteen people. In addition to these rooms, the building will contain a 163-seat arena-style lecture hall off the left side of the building. The new multi-purpose lecture hall will provide certain

Westminster Academy, whose floor plan was used to design our very own structure.

In addition to the new science facility, the Massey addition, being constructed right across from it on the hill in front of the Ball Building, will provide the junior school's students and faculty some much-needed space in their currently cramped situation. The Massey addition will contain six new classrooms, a publications room for *Top of the Hill*, as well as a 200-seat assembly

room, which will give the 7th and 8th grades a meeting place for certain junior school functions. Like the Science Building, the Massey addition will display a brick wall to West End drivers. The two brick structures of both buildings facing West End will not obscure the view of MBA's oldest building, the Isaac Ball Building. "In fact," Mr. Gioia says, "these bricks will most likely enhance the beautiful pillars on the front entrance of the Ball Building."

Eventually, the two new facilities being built right now will create a brand new quad-



Science Building's exterior will provide a similar, yet unique look to the campus landscape. Facing inward on campus toward the Carter Building, the new building

show some other scientists' names as well. There will be three science classrooms on all three stories, each accessible from this front hall. As of now, the lower

groups a place to meet, such as next year's senior seminar, recently implemented into the 1999-2000 course curriculum. Under this unique structure, there will be one more general classroom, giving the building a total of nine laboratory classrooms and one other classroom. Last spring, a few of MBA's science teachers traveled to other schools in order to observe their science facilities. Among those schools visited were Albuquerque Academy, Woodward Academy of Atlanta, and



range, which will complement the John E. Sloan Quadrangle on the opposite side of Ball. Although not expected to be completed by the opening of the 1999-2000 school year, the new

See "Construction," pg. 7

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News Briefs

By Gabe Roth

MBA Sports' Stars to Compete in College

Three MBA students have recently signed scholarships to play on the college level in their respective sports.

Cum Laude Honor Society member Steven Choate has signed to play baseball for Davidson in North Carolina. Steven is currently the staff ace of the Big Red baseball team.

Record-breakers Jonathan Baird and Adrian Cameron have each signed swimming scholarships to Division I schools. Jonathan will be swimming for the University of Virginia, and Adrian will be doing much of the same for the University of Florida. Jonathan is a staff writer of the Bell Ringer, and Adrian is running track.

Juniors and Seniors Inducted into Totomoi

The Spring Tapping held on Monday, March 1, honored this year's new inductees into MBA's honorary fraternity, Totomoi. Totomoi was the name of the estate that was on MBA's current property before the school moved its grounds here.

This year's inductees are seniors Stuart Burkhalter, Paymon Rouhanifard, and Stephen Was, juniors Chris Camp, William Lea, and Gabe Roth, and faculty members Mrs. Jo Palmore and Mrs. Carmen Morrissey.

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Gabe Roth

Production Manager

Adam Johnson
Robert Womack

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Jonathan Tani

Entertainment Editor

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Opinions Editor

Adam Johnson

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The Bell Ringer is a nonprofit newspaper operated and published by and for the students of Montgomery Bell Academy. Views expressed in *The Bell Ringer* do not necessarily represent those held by the staff or school.

Letters to the editor are encouraged, and can be given to a member of the editorial staff, or sent to ringer@montgomerybell.com. These letters must be signed, but names will be withheld on request. Letters will be edited for length if necessary.

The staff of *The Bell Ringer* prepares all copy, headlines, and photographs at Montgomery Bell Academy. EverReady Printing in Nashville, Tennessee, prints the paper.

School Meningitis Scare Only a Scare?

By Andrew Frazer

On April 9, Bill Frazier had contracted bacterial meningitis, a very serious disease. Although this is not an often-reported illness, it is not to be taken lightly.

Meningitis is an inflammation of the sheaths that cover the brain and spinal cord and of the fluid that circulates in and around the brain and spinal cord. Bacteria, viruses, and other agents can cause it. Meningitis most commonly begins in the respiratory system (mostly nose and throat) rather than the heart or bones.

Symptoms for meningitis include fever, lethargy, irritability, vomiting, and occasionally seizures. Headaches and neck stiffness can also be signs of infection. However, no specific symptoms definitely distinguish bacterial meningitis from other types of it.

To prevent and treat this disease, a spinal tap is performed to obtain a sample of the fluid that circulates around the central

nervous system. This fluid can then be tested and examined for a proper diagnosis. Afterward, antibiotics or combinations of antibiotics may be administered to the patient as quickly as possible. Those in close contact with the patient should also be given antibiotics.

Bacterial meningitis is not particularly contagious. The bacteria themselves are very weak and will live in most of us at some point of our lives without causing illness. The bacteria also cannot live long outside the body on clothes, furniture, etc.; thus, transfer of the disease requires very close contact with an infected person. Most cases occur within the first 5 years of life, most likely from 6-12 months. At any time 10%-25% of the population are carriers of the bacteria whether infectious or noninfectious.

We are glad to see Bill's successful recovery and swift return to school.

Expansion: The People vs. MBA

By Andrew Frazer

MBA's expansion plans have now drawn some serious attention. Residents on Brighton, Woodlawn, Ensworth, and Wilson are trying to stop this expansion with Metro's zoning codes.

Their main suggestion is a "conservation overlay." This idea would prohibit MBA from building tennis courts and parking lots in the surrounding neighborhood. Instead, the house that would be torn down would have to be replaced with structures that architecturally conform to the surroundings, i.e., more houses.

On April 15, the Metro Planning Commission voted unanimously against the conservation overlay and said that those residents were abusing Metro's

zoning codes. (Universities must file their master plans and receive conditional use permits; they cannot spontaneously expand into surrounding neighborhoods. However, elementary and preparatory schools have no such restrictions.)

This outcome hopefully prevented any future disputes or misunderstandings.

On April 20, this case was brought before the Metro Council, and the previous decision in favor of MBA was extremely influential. The Metro Council again unanimously opposed the Conservation overlay.

Nothing seems to be standing in the way of MBA expansion now after these proceedings.

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Debate Team Wages War upon State . . .

By Jonathan Mott

On the fateful and unseasonably cool days of April 16 and 17, gaudiness

was achieved. The MBA debate team sent four speakers of the extemporaneous persuasion (two intimidating extempers and two extempers temporarily

dominating the Senate) and its mighty JV policy teams to Cookeville, Tennessee in the THSSDL (Tennessee High School Speech and Debate League) State Tournament. Having prepared themselves both mentally and physically for the challenges and sacrifices involved in missing yet another day of "beloved" classes, Trey Tally, Scott Lewis, Josh Rosenblatt, Eric Wachtler, Jamie Carrol, Carter Wamp, Paul Pope and Daniel Branscome climbed into the van driven by our fearless leader-in-training, Jim Miller. Additionally, Jonathan Mott and Adam Johnson, extempers extraordinaires, ventured out to Cookeville in a Saturn SL-2, throwing all caution to the wind. The one and a half hour trek, filled with such exciting adventures as driving with no eye-sight and being boxed by three 18-wheelers, was interesting to say the least. Such adventures were made possible courtesy of Adam's spraying of half a bottle of Prell in his left eye. (Note: when you have no depth perception, when everything is in a really odd shade of green, or when you cannot see at all, driving is slightly more interesting.) The team arrived there safely, more or less, and checked into the hotel.

After examining the rooms, which oddly enough smelled like cigarettes, as we arrived, we headed to good ol' Cracker Barrel for some sustenance.

Having had enough with the concerns of mere mortals, the policy types threw on their ties and prepared for battle, with the rest of the crew arriving for the mere shock value of an MBA posse in Cookeville. Wheeling in more boxes of evidence than most of the people had seen in their happy lives, MBA had harnessed its *chi* and was ready

for anything. Using its files of pain throughout the evening, MBA units braved the surprisingly fierce competition

provided by Antioch and Farragut. Rounds were deceptively challenging to win for MBA, seeing as judging criteria was completely different than normal and that stranger cases were

preferred to those that actually changed our foreign policy with Russia. For example, one group proposed that the US send special troops into Russia to assassinate its leaders. Judges seemed to eat this up, ignoring the normal voting issues such as topicality, inherency, and disadvantages to the case; instead, they voted for it because it "sounded cool." Idle teammates Adam Johnson and Jonathan Mott sprung into action, churning out blocks of evidence for our teams still "in country."

By the evening's conclusion MBA had steadied itself and was ready for battle on all fronts the next day.

After a solid two hours sleep, the entire MBA clique arose from their coffins. The policy types opting for the shirt and tie, over the extempers/Congress types' Italian suits. With the extempers wheeling in a hegemonic nine boxes of evidence and the steadfast Senators riding in strong off of the previous week's National Qualifying Tournament and Youth Legislature, MBA was looking strong.

MBA continued its successes in the policy division, with the units of Trey Tally and Paul Pope and of Josh Rosenblatt and Scott Lewis both entering semi-finals with impressive records of 4-1. First year novices Jamie Carrol and Eric Wachtler compiled a pleasantly surprising record of 2-3 in the varsity. With the 4-1 units hitting each other in semis, MBA was unable to pull off the rare feat of closing out finals. However, MBA came back strong, getting the 3-0

decision in finals, clinching the first-ever state title for MBA in policy debate.

On to the daunting realm of

extemporaneous speaking. MBA students Carter Wamp and Adam . . . Johnson let loose on the Extemp competition. Speaking for seven minutes without notes on both domestic and foreign topics, our mighty extemp squad provided to be fierce competition. Beating

Tennessee favorites, such as Collierville, Baylor, McCallie--and yes, that's right Dickson County--MBA proved its strength again. Though compiling an impressive record, Carter Wamp failed to break by one ranking, barely missing a spot in finals. However, it seemed that our top extemper, Adam Johnson, would not be able to speak in finals, due to the conflicting schedule with the BGA prom. Until about 1:15, it appeared that Adam would be unable to defend his state title. Fortunately, the times of finals were toyed with and all went well.

Blowing away the competition, Adam backed his title for the second year, no questions asked.

In the realm of Student Congress, students act as legislators, either Representatives or Senators, to debate and vote on legislation written by the students.

MBA tested Senators Daniel Branscome and Jonathan Mott. Mott's act on video-voyeurism, co-written by Adam Johnson, was second out of committee and was fifth on the docket. After debating such creative bills as having executions broadcast on TV, with proceeds going to

policy of Manifest Destiny and annexing Canada, the issue of video-voyeurism was recognized by the Presiding Officer.

Heated debate soon leapt forth after a presentation full of both shocking fact and sharp rhetoric. The bill was challenged on the grounds of freedom of the press and on

the processes of incrimination, but was championed by Mott, the bill's "opinionated" sponsor, and Dan Branscome, master of the lost art of ranting. After over an hour of debate, with opinion wavering back and forth, the bill passed on a 17-7 vote. Later, elections for best speakers were held. After Mott had closed out each of the judges' nominations, the rest of the nominations went down by point rankings. Dan was robbed, missing a nomination by only two points. The state championship in the Senate division of Student Congress went to Mott, who defeated Sam McCree of BHS by a significant margin.

Overall, MBA put forth a dominating presence at the fickle THSSDL tournament, winning not one,

but three state titles. Having captured the firsts in policy, extemp, and Student Congress this year, the MBA debate team will have only more to prove next year, needing to back up its hard-earned titles.

We could not have possibly accomplished this all without the aid of our beloved leader, Jim Miller, who sacrificed his weekend to coach us towards victory. Providing both exuberant morale and keen advice on Tennessee politics, Jim Miller aided us in the absence of Mr.

Tate, who was busy at an important NFL meeting. Thanks to Mr. Alan Coverstone, Mr. Billy Tate, and Mr. Jim Miller for



the government and to the victim's family, as well as an act to re-adopt the

making this possible.

News

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... and then Takes on the Entire Nation

By Paul Johnson

The MBA debate team scored a dual coup on the weekend of April 16th, capturing both state tournament titles, reigning supreme as the definitive force in Tennessee forensics and winning the prestigious policy debate tournament held at Northwestern University in Evanston, IL. These victories are merely following the pattern set throughout the year by MBA's stellar debate team.

The victory at Northwestern was hard fought but well deserved. MBA sent three units to compete at the tournament: Raja Gaddipati and Robbie Quinn, Travis Swearingen and Samir Idnani, and the sophomore unit of Paul Johnson and Dalton Franklin. The team left on Friday afternoon and arrived in Evanston about 11:30 p.m. after numerous unplanned stops and much to the ire of oft-maligned, but much loved, coach, Alan Coverstone.

Stops along the way included a "character filled" BP station in Chicago, and the omnipresent Steak and Shake in Louisville, KY, a debate team staple since the arrival of Mr. Coverstone at MBA. It was a rather non-descript beginning to a rather spectacular week-

end.

Great things were expected of

MBA at this tournament, particularly of the unit comprised of Robbie and Raja. They had estab-

lished an unparalleled track record this season including wins at the prestigious Wake Forest tournament and at the Glennbrooks, another important Chicago tournament. But a coup was scored against Robbie and Raja in the first round of Northwestern, when a virtually

school of Chicago pulled a stunning upset of MBA's much heralded

powerhouse team. Truman defeating Dewey it wasn't, but nonetheless placed Robbie and Raja in a precarious situation. They would have to win out in order

to ensure a high enough seeding to avoid a tough matchup in the first "out round." ("Out rounds" are like the playoffs of a debate tournament.) Meanwhile, the unit of Travis and Samir was whipping some major keyster on the Northwest side of Chi-

town. Samir and Travis stormed out of the gate winning their first two rounds. They proceeded to win the next four preliminary rounds as well. As a team that had somewhat lived in the shadow of a dominant team in Robbie and Raja, Travis and Samir were finding new life by showing the world that not only was debate

quality at the top of MBA's program strong, but that the other team could make waves as well. The preliminaries of this tournament were a strong statement by Travis and Samir.

Meanwhile, even as the big names had their ups and downs, MBA's sophomore unit started off with a bang, compiling a 3-1 record after the first four rounds. This precipitous climb, however, was

followed by a crushing downturn as Paul and Dalton proceeded to drop two straight rounds and finish at 3-3, not a good enough record to precede to the elimination rounds of the tournament.

After finishing up the first two rounds at 1-1, Robbie and Raja showed why they are considered to be the team to beat in every national tournament. They won four straight rounds to finish 5-1.

After the first six preliminary rounds, it was time for the accolades for speaking at the tournament to be presented. Samir Idnani finished as 11th speaker at the tournament, while his partner Travis was

See "Debate" pg. 13



unknown team from Glennbrook South

1999 Northwestern University Clarion Dewitt Hardy Debate Tournament April 17 - 19, 1999 Chicago, Illinois



Opinions

A True "People's President"

by Johnny Sisk

Living in this country the



past year has been like being a passenger aboard the Hindenberg. With Monica's lead, we've all been going own. As if this weren't enough, the seemingly drunken captain of this doomed zeppelin we call America has been busy checking the odometer for ticks, breaking in his newly recruited interns, and, all the while, somehow finding time to bomb our good old friends in Iraq. At this point, we all seem to have gotten off this meandering floating gargantuan helium-acknowledged death balloon with relative ease. But it can't be that easy, right? This country will have to offer a little more.

I mean, at this point just two months ago, did it seem like we could actually make it?

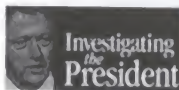
Well, like the president himself, his initial quickly me and quietly went. On Friday, February 12, 1999, a truly interesting chapter ended in the book that is the history of our slowly dying Republic when William Jefferson Clinton was acquitted on two counts of perjury against him. Needless, of course, Bill still screws up again. However, for the time being, we all seem to have averted national disaster.

But was the anticipated and ultimate verdict the right one?

Sure, many presidents have lied, but under oath? "Yeah, okay," the American people seemed to say, "got anything else ... other than that he's a dirty lowlife criminal who cheats on his wife?" Clinton is the scum that lives on the scum in between your bathroom shower tiles. In the sleaze department, he's showed about as much restraint as Coach Caudill at a Denny's all-you-can-eat cheese-dipped fish stick buffet. However, our commander-in-chief's approval rating is still sky high. Without a doubt, our current president has proved himself to be one of the most talented men this country has ever seen.



The man is so smooth he makes Sharon Stone's character in Clinton and his lawyers use. In a country where its citizens are preoccupied with consuming mass quantities of Taco Bell's self-admitted yappin' chihuahua dog-meat enchiladas and the greatest debate is over whether the Furbies are actually reincarnated Gremlins, who has time for a little thing like the



President? The American public has brushed this trial aside like an MBA assembly does a debate announcement.

But why? Why have we forgiven, even embraced, such a corrupted leader? Is it because we've all learned to accept lying as part of our habitual culture? Is it



because we've simply become used to seeing our politicians and elected officials lie? Or is it because he's from Arkansas? Look, the man's guilty of a crime ... many crimes. But if we fired or arrested every guilty soul in America, this country would soon find itself 260 million honest citizens short, and O.J. wouldn't be playing three rounds of 18 every weekend

in L.A. Everyone in this country lies. It's the only way we can live with ourselves in this age of self-denial. When this story broke, much of the country wanted to crucify the man because, "he's a bad representative of our country." True, he is, but unfortunately for us, a very accurate one. What does it say about our country now more than a year later, that no one seems to care about his acquittal? "Well, all he really did was lie."

Our country forgives him so easily because Bill Clinton is our country right now – a guy just trying to get on FOX's Guinness Primetime

for the world record of how many interns he can fit under a desk.

And how can our country not care about this situation?

Watching

the evening news pieces on this story has been like watching previews for *Caligula*. When reading the Starr report, I wasn't all that sure he hadn't just taken a few excerpts from *Penthouse Forum*. One wonders how our

swingin' prez made it as long as he did without getting caught. Broken laws, indecent acts, rude behavior, drugs, booze, sex – no, not an



MBA theater cast party but our very own White House. There have been more federal crimes committed in the Oval Office the past six years than in Charlie Sheen's bathroom on New Year's Eve.

Or does the reason that no one seems to care lie in the fact that Americans have been bred over many generations of declining morality to be inherently

See "Clinton," pg. 7

News/Opinions

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Construction (cont. from pg. 2)

Gambill Quadrangle is currently being designed. One question facing the designers is where MBA's historic cannons will be placed. Comments and suggestions are encouraged by Mr. Gioia on where they should be moved on campus. Like the quadrangle, MBA's new entrance, road, and additional parking will not be ready by next year either because, as Mr. Gioia stresses, "Getting the buildings done by next year is the main focus and priority right now." Following these developments, the campus will see the rebuilding of Carter Hall



into a new and improved three-story building while some of those classes are moved to the bottom of the gym, current home of the science department's lucky faculty. If all goes as planned and Carter is completed, renovation of the gym's lower level could begin by May of 2000.

Although for now, we can all look forward to enjoying the new campus structures, bound to add a number of unique features to MBA's improving campus, as we expand into the 21st century.

Clinton (cont. from pg. 6)

selfish and overindulgent? As long as the economy's fine, the *SI* Swimsuit Issue's in the mail, and everyone can watch our country's most precious jewel, *WCW Monday Night Nitro*, who really cares what happens to our president or our country for that matter? The lax attitude and approach this country has taken to the biggest trial in our nation's history illustrates our very own shortcomings and faults. We've all seemed to forgotten that who, I mean, what the President does always reflects

upon us as well as our country.

So maybe we haven't gotten off board this bloated blimp of a nation just yet. Maybe we should actually try to rescue our own doomed union by realizing and accepting the fact that we, ourselves, may be the ultimate problem with this country.

Hey, the presidential witch hunters may say that Bill Clinton's going to hell, but if he really is, buckle up again because we're all going with him.

Refutation of Egotism

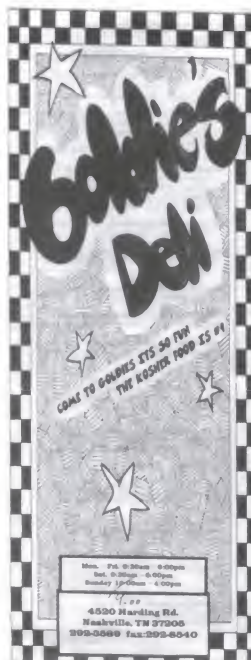
Dear Editor,

I am writing to express the disappointment I felt when I read "Poll on High School Women" in the December edition of *The Bell Ringer*. I would guess that when you published this article, you thought it was funny and urbane. Let me set you straight. It was laughable and crude.

This poll about attitudes toward high school women taken by more than two hundred MBA students was really blatant sexism

packed with attractive graphs. I don't know if the author or the editorial staff realized it but, this puerile (look it up in your Latin-English dictionaries) article confirmed many of the negative stereotypes which abound here in Nashville about the student body at MBA. Both the heavy-handed questions and arrogant responses lead a reader to think that MBA's students are loutish, insensitive and immature rich boys.

Did you forget that *The Bell*



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Ringer would be seen by more than just MBA students during a lunch period or study hall? Did you consider that this article would be read by parents, alumni and members of the Nashville community? Did you know that copies of all publications are permanently kept in the library? Years from now, when your children or other readers born in the millenium come across this issue, will you be proud?

There are so many students

here at MBA (including the author of this article) who are creative, talented writers. It is a shame that more good judgement and taste weren't employed by the editors when this article was deemed worthy to occupy two pages in MBA's school paper.

Mildred Tilley
MBA Faculty
Member and
Parent

Wrestling Team Caps Off a Year of Determination

Strong wills and a lot of heart lead team to victories of strength and emotion

By Kempton Presley

Led by coaches Simpson, Killian, Pedersen, and Spiegl, the Big Red grapplers compiled an impressive regular season record of 17-3, including a victory over the defending State Champions, Father Ryan, and a first-place finish at the first annual CBHS Tournament (the first team championship in MBA wrestling history).

Because of these great accomplishments, the team was seen as one of the favorites in the State Dual and State Individual Tournaments. Unfortunately the Big Red did not reach their full potential in the Duals as they lost to Baylor. Not only did this loss deny MBA the opportunity to face Ryan in the finals, but it also left a bitter taste in the mouths of all participants who knew they had not performed to their fullest capacity. In spite of this loss, MBA came back and defeated Christian Brothers and McCallie to place third in the Duals.

The following week the team reassembled in the practice room for a few more intense practices in preparation for the State Individual Tournament. Many knew that the upcoming weekend would be their last chance to show the team's true abilities. Unfortunately, as Friday approached, many of the wrestlers and coaches battled sicknesses that plagued Nashville during the period of stagnant weather. Although abundant, no germs could dampen the spirit of the Big Red, a team that was ready to go out with a bang.

The first two rounds of the State Tournament revealed the strength of the MBA team, which took the lead as ten of the fourteen starters advanced to the semi-finals. This round would be the most important of the tournament. Despite many close matches, only six of the remaining ten advanced to the finals. Baylor also sent six

wrestlers to the finals while Ryan sent four. At the end of day one MBA led the race by a margin of twenty points, but the tournament was not over yet.

On Saturday, to the dismay of the Big Red, the correction of a math error reduced the MBA lead to only four points. Coach Simpson told the consolation troops that they would be the deciding factor in the tournament's outcome.

Driven by his words of inspiration, the non-finalists put their hearts on the line, and six came away with medals. Will Tate battled his way through four rounds of consolation and ended up placing fifth as a sophomore.

In his first state tournament appearance, Rich Crim beat out an opponent that he had previously lost to in order to place. He then capped his wrestling career with a pin for the fifth place medal.

Chris Camp rallied through the consolations to place fifth for the second time in two years. As a junior, Chris still has one more year.

Kempton Presley came back, after losing a close semi-final match the night before, and defeated Jon Napier to finish fifth. Having placed fourth in this tournament the year before, Kempton ended his four-year varsity wrestling career with a win.

MBA's two fourth place finishers both gained their medals heroically. Despite being ailed with a twisted ankle, sophomore Hunter Huston defeated BA's Eric Sizemore in the consolation

semis. He wrestled the full six minutes and then was carried off the mat. Tate Rich, a junior who placed third in state last year, finished his fourth place match in a great deal of pain. He later found out that his collar bone had been broken. Despite the great perseverance of the MBA wrestlers in the consolations, Baylor took the lead before the finals.

As a result of Friday's efforts, Montgomery Bell Academy was represented well in the finals on and off the mat. The MBA cheering section filled up as Patrick Simpson took the mat. As a ninety-two pound freshman, Patrick faced one of his greatest rivals, Whit Casey. Although

Simpson controlled the match throughout the first two periods, Casey's weight and flexibility carried him to victory in the third period.

Despite this loss, Phillip Simpson came out with a vengeance to defend his 1998 championship title. Phillip, a sophomore, took charge and pinned his opponent early in the match giving him his second state finals win.

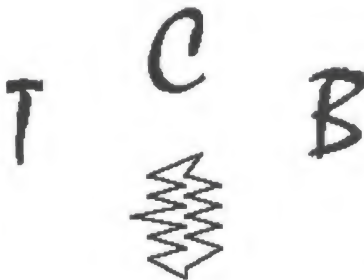
When it was time for the 125 lb. weight class to brawl, Jonathan Williams came out to the mat on a mission. Having finished second last year, Williams wanted nothing more than to finish his senior year as a state champ. During the first two periods, the fans began to worry as Jonathan could not seem to gain control of Notre Dame's Chris Kulisek. In the third period, Jonathan caught up to

Kulisek's lead by taking him down with seconds left. Feeling the traces of the flu that had come upon him during the previous week, Jonathan tried to block out all of his physical pain. As overtime progressed Williams and Kulisek fought for the takedown. Finally after a series of counters and rolls, Jonathan came up on top of Kulisek. He had reached his goal.

Shortly after this victory, MBA senior Matt Woolsey, a third-place finisher last year, stepped into the ring against the tournament's "best wrestler," Jamie Castleman. Despite Woolsey's great skills and desire, Castleman got the best of him.

Soon after, another MBA senior Will Norton stepped onto the mat to face Baylor's Matt Provanzano. Norton, a powerful 145-pounder, had faced much adversity after breaking his ankle at the beginning of his junior year. He had returned to the mat with fire during this season. Unfortunately he did not come out on top against Provanzano despite great determination.

As the finals went on, Baylor continued to succeed and pulled ahead of MBA and Ryan. But it was not over for the Big Red. David Farrell, a senior heavyweight stud, would face the nation's top-ranked wrestler for the second year in a row. Although Farrell was not victorious, his courage and attitude were admired by all. As the tournament came to a close, MBA came within twelve points of Baylor and Father Ryan. Despite the third place finish, the Big Red had definitely left their mark on the competition. The MBA wrestling team losses six seniors this year. Although these grapplers will be missed, the underclassmen can carry on the tradition of, as Elvis Presley liked to say, "taking care of business, in a flash!"



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Basketball's Bygones

Season Ends with Disappointment, Hope for Next Season

By Stephen Was

The MBA varsity basketball team concluded its season last month against University School in the Division II playoffs held at Battle Ground Academy. The Big Red fell behind early and could not recover, losing 53-44. MBA had fought back after a halftime deficit to take a one point lead early in the fourth quarter, only to see USN take control the rest of the way.

This game was indicative of MBA's roller coaster season that included ten wins and fourteen losses. The Big Red earned victories against opponents including BGA, Dickson County, and Marshall County but came out on the short end of several close Division II games that impacted the success of the team. MBA lost by one point at both Brentwood Academy and Father Ryan. Furthermore, both losses to Goodpasture went into overtime.

The competition was stiff, to say the least, as MBA challenged nationally ranked White County early in the season and faced four Mr. Basketball finalists

during the course of the year: Marcus Haislip of Marshall County, Brent Jolly of White County, Will Howard-Downs of USN, and Enoch Bunch of Father Ryan.

The future is bright for the MBA basketball team, though. Look for the team to respond with a vengeance next year, as only one starter, Blake Bergeron, is graduating this year. The Big Red will be returning several key players including Barton Simmons, who averaged 11.0 points a game this year, and Moses Osenwegie, who pulled down 5.0 rebounds a game and scored 8.0 points a game. Dan Banko continues to get taller and to improve his moves around the basket. Other key returning players who will contribute next year include sharpshooter Evan Abrahams, as well as Ingle Martin and Jonas Rodriguez.

There is added enthusiasm towards next year surrounding the speculation that Jerry Meyer, who served as an assistant on the struggling Vanderbilt basketball team this past season, will return to the Big Red coaching staff.

Swimming Continues Mid-State Dominance

Team Also Places Strong in State Meet

By Andrew Frazer

The MBA Swim Team finished a consistently strong year. The team defended its Region Championship again, and relay teams set three state records.

The team finished the regular season with a dual meet record of 4-2, with an average margin of victory around 40 points. This record included victories over USN, Brentwood Academy, Hendersonville, Bowling Green, and Brentwood High. The two losses were against Baylor and McCallie, who practice in their own facilities year round and have alternated between first and second in the State meet for many previous years.

The Region Championship began with the Region diving meet on February 11. Divers David McIntosh and Chris Vutsinas finished third and fifth in the Region accumulating 30 points before the swimming events. On Friday the MBA swimmers crushed the competition as Adrian Cameron set Region records in the 100 yard

and 200 yard freestyle events.

Two weeks later the team competed in the State swim meet in a new year but with a similar outcome. MBA won seven of twelve events: the 100 yard backstroke, 100 yard breaststroke, 200 yard freestyle, 500 yard freestyle, 200 yard individual medley, 200 yard medley relay, and 400 yard freestyle relay. Jonathan Baird, Adrian Cameron, Peter Chen, and Chris Kellam set new state records in the 200 yard medley relay and 400 yard freestyle relay, and Jonathan Baird set a new State record in the 100 yard breaststroke. However, McCallie and Baylor swept numerous places in other events and again finished first and second in the meet, respectively.

With three All-American swimmers graduating this year, the team may lose a significant number of points. Nonetheless, it hopes to defend its Region title once again.

Few teams will ever be as record-breaking as the 1998-1999 MBA Swim Team.

Baseball Team's Season Heating Up

Davidson Signee Steven Choate Getting Help From Teammates Young and Old

By Eric Larence

After starting the season off with a 2-0 record, the MBA baseball team traveled to Cocoa, Florida to play in seven exhibition games over Spring Break. In Florida, the Big Red went 4-3 while facing tough competition from teams from the Northeast and South.

Once back in Nashville, the team lost close games to Harpeth and Glasgow, KY, but defeated USN in the first division game.

The Big Red then went on a five game winning streak, defeating Mt. Juliet Christian,

Hillwood, Cheatem County, St. Andrews' Sewanee, and Middle Tennessee Christian.

Unfortunately, the Big Red fell short in a game against rival Father Ryan, the loss that ended the streak. Following this loss to Father Ryan, the Big Red went to Goodpasture and defeated

the Cougars, thereby beating a huge division foe on the road.



The Big Red has received strong senior leadership from catcher Elliot Kyle, first baseman

David Scobey, pitchers Stephen Choate and Adam Mazzoni, right fielder Matt Woolsey, and third baseman Cole Barfield

Individual's highlights of the season include Jay Pettus' batting .500 with two HRs, Warner Jones' seven RBIs against USN, and Clark Lea's two HRs. As a team, MBA has a 100% SB percentage, 6 HR's, and a batting average of .385 (at press time). Currently, the Big Red is 13-6, heading into the stretch run of what could turn out to be one of the best seasons for the baseball team in years.

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Sports

DOUG HALL RELAYS



Varsity Distance Medley

MBA(Lea, Bass, Rudolph, Dean)	10:54.43
Franklin Road Academy	10:59.9
Brentwood Academy	11:32.4
Christ Presbyterian Academy	
Father Ryan	
Hunters Lane	12:12.1
David Lipscomb	
McGvock	



Varsity Middle Distance Medley

MBA(McDonald, McIntosh, Bass, Dean)	3:40.03
Hume-Fogg	3:44.16
Hunters Lane	3:53.02
Franklin Road Academy	3:58.09
Father Ryan	3:58.40
Brentwood Academy	3:58.95
Overton	3:59.60
David Lipscomb	4:01.55



Varsity Shot Put

Brentwood Academy	144' 0.5"
David Lipscomb	131' 1.5"
MBA(Hillenmeyer, McMurray, Camp)	130' 10"
McGavock	126' 8.5"
Franklin Road Academy	121' 9.5"
Maplewood	117' 3"
Ezell Harding	116' 8"
Christ Presbyterian Academy	114' 3.5"



Varsity Discus

Brentwood Academy	396' 3"
David Lipscomb	373' 8"
Hunters Lane	366' 1"
Christ Presbyterian Academy	364' 8"
MBA(Hillenmeyer, Denbo, Neal)	364' 6"
Maplewood	353' 10"
Ezell Harding	323'
Battle Ground Academy	320' 7"



Varsity Pole Vault

Brentwood Academy	35' 6"
MBA(Verner, Bass, Miller)	34'
David Lipscomb	32' 6"
Franklin Road Academy	31'
Overton	23'
Battle Ground Academy	18'
Ezell Harding	16' 6"



Mr. Pruitt, the head coach of a larger-than-life track coaching staff, finally gets his hands on lucky number six. Known for his humor and wit around MBA, his name has been making headlines recently because of the marvelous job he has done with both the track and cross-country teams, winning a combined three state titles in the past two years.



Varsity Long Jump

Christ Presbyterian Academy	57' 7.75"
Battle Ground Academy	56' 3.25"
Stratford	56' 1"
Maplewood	55' 11.75"
Hunters Lane	55' 11.5"
MBA(McDonald, McIntosh, Hammerlein)	54' 11.5"
Ezell Harding	54' 8.5"
Pearl Cohn	53' 11.5"



Varsity High Jump

Maplewood	17' 8"
David Lipscomb	17' 4"
MBA(Ward, Ingram, Murphy)	17'
Franklin Road Academy	16' 10"
McGavock	16' 6"
Hunters Lane	16' 6"
Battle Ground Academy	16'
Overton	15' 8"



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6 CONSECUTIVE TITLES



Varsity Sprint Medley

Stratford	1:35.78
McGavock	1:37.46
Hunters Lane	1:40.33
Hume-Fogg	1:40.53
Hillwood	1:40.57
Father Ryan	1:41.44
Brentwood Academy	1:42.20
MBA(Harris, Murphy, Ingram, Thompson)	1:42.82



Varsity Shuttle Hurdle

Franklin Road Academy	47.50
Christ Presbyterian Academy	50.24
MBA(Murphy, Hillenmeyer, Ingram)	50.29
Maplewood	52.78
Ezell Harding	53.54
Hunters Lane	55.10
Battle Ground Academy	55.53
Father Ryan	58.70



Varsity 4x1600m

Christ Presbyterian Academy	19:41.2
MBA(Frazer, Cameron, Sweeney, Rouhanifard)	19:54.0
Hunters Lane	20:02.3
Brentwood Academy	20:19.6
Hillwood	20:48.9
David Lipscomb	21:03.8
Franklin Road Academy	21:42.8
Father Ryan	23:11.2



Mr. Gioia presides over the dedication of the new track, as the McDaniel family is thanked for their kind support of MBA and its track team.



Mr. Regen receives a much deserved award for his dedicated service to the Doug Hall Relays since their inception. Annually, this award is presented to the individual who most embodies the ideals of the Doug Hall Relays and to the person who has gone beyond the call of duty to aid this worthy cause. Congratulations, and thank you for your fine work.



Varsity 4x800m

Hunters Lane	8:25.16
MBA(Rudolph, Ziberna, Verner, Lea)	8:28.40
Christ Presbyterian Academy	8:32.40
Brentwood Academy	8:38.36
Whites Creek	8:42.05
Hillwood	8:50.00
Battle Ground Academy	8:55.05
Father Ryan	8:57.35



Varsity 4x100m

MBA(McDonald, McIntosh, Webb, Thompson)	43.09
Hunters Lane	43.52
Stratford	44.16
Christ Presbyterian Academy	44.33
McGavock	44.53
Brentwood Academy	44.70
Maplewood	44.73
Father Ryan	45.16



Varsity 4x200m

Hunters Lane	1:31.20
Stratford	1:32.55
Hume-Fogg	1:32.84
MBA(McIntosh, Webb, Rodriguez, Thompson)	1:33.11
McGavock	1:33.51
Maplewood	1:33.81
Brentwood Academy	1:34.23
David Lipscomb	1:34.87



Varsity 4x400m

Hunters Lane	3:25.65
Ezell Harding	3:29.48
Maplewood	3:33.36
MBA(Rodriguez, McDonald, Webb, Verner)	3:34.51
Christ Presbyterian Academy	3:35.10
Whites Creek	3:35.58
Brentwood Academy	3:36.46
Franklin Road Academy	3:39.62

The Predators Reckon Nashville Knows Hockey Now

By Zac Hood

A few sport's team has taken over Nashville, and it's not the Oilers or Titans. Coming to a city quite unfamiliar with the sport of hockey, the Predators have become a favorite for many people. Part of this fan response is because of the excitement and the other part for the accommodations of the new arena. And the fans like the fights, too.

Like many other people, I went to see the Titans play at Vanderbilt. Every occasion be-

came more uncomfortable. The beginning of the season was extremely hot, the end was unseasonably cold. Along with the weather, the seats at Vanderbilt were smaller and smaller, especially with the huge winter jackets of the men flanking me.

The arena is air-conditioned, and heated, when needed. The seats all have backs on them and are spaced out evenly. With many bathrooms and concession stands, the halls are never crowded. The hockey game itself is very

entertaining, especially when the Preds clinch a victory.

There are two particular instances at the arena I will never forget. The first event involves the low rails on the balconies. At



one game, a man sitting yellow me had gotten up to get something to eat. He returned with two huge tubs of popcorn and a coke in his hands.

Sitting on the first row of the balcony, the man had to step over many people to get back to his seat. While trying to step over the first

person, the man tripped and lost his balance. Then,

regaining his balance, he stepped over another person and tripped again. This time he was not so fortunate. His two extra large popcorn tubs had



been slammed against the rail of the balcony. They turned over and fell off the rail, the popcorn spilling out. The man jumped up and ran up the stairs. The enraged fans below had no one to yell at but the people he had tripped over. The sight was nothing I had seen before at a sporting event.

The second event involved a fight at the game. Though many fights occur at hockey games, this one was not on the ice. The fight took place during the end of an intense game which the Predators were losing by one goal. On a breakaway, one of the Predators' had tried to score and the puck got deflected into the seats. There was a scramble for the souvenir and finally a man tore it from the pile and raised it for all to see. From the Jumbotron, I noticed a large redneck, about 260 lbs, and with a beard and mustache, standing behind the man, yelling and screaming. Giving in to a weight mismatch, the man fell down and seemed to be hurt.

The redneck picked up the puck and started back to his seat, with the crowd booing him. Finally, security served and escorted the man out of the arena after returning the puck to its rightful owner.

These stories, along with the intense action of hockey, have caused me to turn in my Titan's PSL's to purchase Predators Tickets. You all should consider doing the same.



Frosh Reign As Champs of Doug Hall

MBA Freshmen Begin and End Strong, Earn First Place Finishes in Track and Field, Individual and Relay, Events



Freshman Long Jump

Ellison - BGA	17' 4"
Ellison - Lipscomb	16' 4.35"
Hessom - BA	16' 3.5"
Guerra - MBA	16' 1.25"
Tallent - FRA	14' 7.75"



Freshman Shot Put

Duncan - MBA	42' 2"
Wilkinson - BGA	41' 7"
Turman - Maplewood	38' 8"
Hessom - BA	38' 4"
Varnado - Lipscomb	35' 4"

Freshman High Jump

Brewer - BA	5' 6"
Crocker - Maplewood	5' 6"
Tucker - MBA	5' 6"

Freshman 3x200m

Brentwood Academy	1:40.05
MBA	1:40.59
Maplewood	1:43.00
Father Ryan	1:45.33
Battle Ground Academy	1:47.30
David Lipscomb	1:51.90

Freshman Discus

Sorenson - MBA	128' 10"
Perry - Lipscomb	117' 2"
Noel - Maplewood	113' 7"
Wilkinson - BGA	111' 3"
Bowman - BA	105'
Harman - Excell Housing	100' 7"

Freshman 4x100m

MBA	46.86
Brentwood Academy	47.89
Father Ryan	48.26
Battle Ground Academy	50.93
David Lipscomb	52.00

Freshman 4x400m

MBA	3:44.20
Brentwood Academy	3:51.78
Franklin Road Academy	3:54.24
Battle Ground Academy	4:09.08
David Lipscomb	4:17.80
Father Ryan	4:30.90

Freshman Pole Vault

Brewer - FRA	9' 6"
Johnson - BA	9' 6"
Dorris - Lipscomb	9'
Excell - MBA	8' 6"
Phillips - BGA	7' 6"



Freshman 4x800m

MBA	9:01.06
Brentwood Academy	9:03.93
Franklin Road Academy	9:17.60
Battle Ground Academy	9:22.70
David Lipscomb	10:04.49
Father Ryan	10:45.50



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Entertainment

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Paul's Movie Reviews

When one deigns to see movies, the rationale that dictates the viewing should never be "This movie won't suck as much as the rest of them." Yet this was my rationale during a two week period during and after spring break. The movies I saw included *The General*, *200 Cigarettes*, *Edtv*, *The Mod Squad*, and *The Matrix*. Here are the following humble opinions of mine on these films; be forewarned; my taste varies and is indescribably bad.

The General- John Boorman, the man who brought you the family film *Deliverance*, strikes again with this film about an Irish thief who made enemies of both the government and the IRA in Dublin. Boorman filmed it entirely in



black and white, and while stylish and very effective at understating the things key to the plot, Boorman in

part fails by having the Irishman's shenanigans go on for way too long; by the end of this film I wanted the leprechaun from the Lucky Charms box to shoot the protagonist and John Boorman. An *Ode to Sleep* should have been the title.

200 Cigarettes- This ensemble piece starring almost all of young and hip Hollywood fails miserably. Somehow, despite a terrible plot and premise



(what a bunch of people do before a New Year's eve party in New York before 1983) good young actors deigned to do this piece. I call it a piece because that's what it was. When this movie comes to video, run don't walk to your nearest video store to protest the existence of this film. Incendiary devices may be used to destroy all and any traces of this film's ever having been made.



Edtv- Surprisingly, this film provided the viewer with many mild laughs and a few good chortles. Not surprisingly, Woody Harrelson is still a bad actor. I don't care what he did in some Milos' Forman film; he is perhaps the most one-dimensional actor to come out of Hollywood since the guy that played Jason in all of those Friday the 13th films.

The Mod Squad- The show from the sixties wasn't ever very good to begin with. The movie made in the 90's is actually worse. They gave the director three wonderful young actors; Giovanni

Ribisi, Claire Danes, and Omar Epps.

Yet the writing is wretched and the cinematography is piecemeal. The soundtrack is good; and in fact you'd be better off bringing it into the movie with a discman and listening to music, because it doesn't matter what the characters say, we know how it will end. I wish the little leprechaun would torture this films writers.



The Matrix- Absolutely mind-boggling. What a wonderful piece of work. The best Keanu Reeves film ever, mainly because Reeves didn't have to act in it. The cinematography will blow your mind. Incredible action shots in which Reeves battles numerous baddies in slow motion will leave your jaw dropped. The



fact that the film embraces a neo-Taoist mindset is pretty cool too.

Das Booty- No, I did not see this film. But the premise itself is worth noting; a black rapper (Masta P) commands a Nazi u-boat. Talk about realism, this one's right up there with Howard the Duck and Maximum Overdrive. Nazis + minorities = harmony. Right?

10 Things I Hate About You provides a solid alternative to the typical teenage comedy fair. As opposed to the teen



comedies that are based operatively upon cheap jokes involving bodily functions or crude laughs from a gimpy insult, this film was done intelligently with a look at what teenagers might actually do in certain situations. The cast is absolutely stellar, with Joseph Gordon-Levitt anchoring a teen cast with headline stars of the teenage world. Additionally, the themes pervaded throughout the film indicate that typical teenage stereotypes aren't necessarily always applicable, and in fact that independent and free thought are noble endeavors for teens.

Debate (cont. from pg. 5)

4* speaker overall. Once again, Raja brought home the bacon however, as he took first speaker overall.

Now it was time when the preliminaries do not matter, as the elimination rounds began a whole new ballgame.

By virtue of their superb record and excellent speaking in the preliminaries, Travis and Samir broke as the first seed, setting up a relatively easy round in the double-octafinals of the tournament. Robbie and Raja also had a solid seeding due to Raja's excellent speaking and the team's record. Both teams won and advanced to the octafinals round, to be held the next morning at the tournament hotel.

The culinary desires of Mr. Coverstone were not to be denied, as the team dined at a Mediterranean restaurant. Some members of the team foolishly spent copious amounts of cash on meals, logically surmising that they would return

as scheduled and hence have money to burn. Others, like one Dalton Franklin, decided to ogle waitresses. All retired to the safety of their rooms and quickly slumbered because the next day would be a doozy.

The morning opened on a high note, as a Krispy Kreme doughnut shop was located near the hotel. Doughnuts were quickly procured for the morning's combatants. However, when the pairings came out an unfortunate sight was seen. The unit of Travis and Samir was hitting a team that, despite losing two rounds at the tournament, was one of the select few that had rivaled the successes of MBA this year. Still, Travis and Samir were the favorite to advance deeper into the tournament. Meanwhile Robbie and Raja were hitting a team that they were expected to easily triumph over. When the smoke cleared, Travis and Samir had fallen, albeit after a glorious battle, to the hands of a Chicago school. Robbie and

Raja, however, had advanced, out to avenge the bloody defeat of their comrades. Would they get a chance?

Robbie and Raja, determined to take the title, advanced in the quarterfinals round to the semifinals, where they defeated a team from the prestigious Pace Academy in Atlanta. The team that had defeated Travis and Samir had dropped in quarterfinals so revenge would not be Robbie and Raja's. But a sweeter victory could be obtained with a victory in the finals.

Two years earlier Robbie Quinn had been in Finals of the tournament and lost. Now he was in the same position again, but two years the wiser. The team they were debating had beaten Robbie and Raja on numerous occasions during the season. This team dueled with Robbie and Raja for two hours, and when the dust had settled one team was left standing; that team was the MBA unit of Robbie Quinn and Raja Gaddipadi.

Because of the late time at which the tournament finished and the distance to Nashville from Chicago, the MBA debate team elected to stay another night, much to the chagrin of the teachers of these students. Many debaters were low on cash because they had not anticipated the longer stay. So the debate team returned on Tuesday, a day late and a dollar short.

What lies in store for the MBA debate team for the rest of the year? Many of the pundits are predicting that MBA will win the prestigious Tournament of Champions at the University of Kentucky. Winning that tournament would be the crown jewel on an absolutely spectacular season by the MBA debate team. Additionally, the NFL nationals tournament will be held in Phoenix, Arizona in mid-June, and MBA will be sending two units to that tournament.

Slick Willy's

CAR OF THE MONTH

By Adam Mazzoni and Jonathan Baird

Robbie Quinn's Pick-up Truck

Type: 1983 Datsun Pick-up Truck

Miles: 93,000 miles

Color: Orange or Yellow

Nicknames: No, I don't name my car. That's stupid.

Back-seat sleepability: It's a truck, sleep in the back if you want to if it's warm and not raining. 3-8, depending on weather.

Mack-ability: Not mackable at all.
The backseat could have a bed, otherwise the stick shift gets in the way.

Escape-ability: 50 mph-truck not to be taken out on the interstate

Number of wrecks: One, rear-ended by a Neon.

The truck's front was totaled, the Neon didn't even lose any paint.

Times pulled over: Once; the cop saw that its license plate has expired.

Other cool features: Manual steering.

The driver's seat has sunk so low that you can barely see above the dash.

The radio was also stolen from it.

Personal opinion: This truck has personality wherever it goes. It stands out.

If I was given the chance to buy any other car, I would keep this one.

Teachers' Farewell

For the final issue of the 1998-99 Bell Ringer, the staff asks all of the teachers who are leaving MBA (there eleven-some-odd of you, and we know who are, and we'll find you, so don't even think of hiding) for a range of reasons, from getting a new job to going back to school to realizing that teaching adolescent boys isn't their thing.

We would like to acknowledge those of you who will not be returning to teach next year and ask you to write a farewell to MBA for the final issue, kind of like a "senior bio."

Here are some suggestions about what a non-returning teacher may want to write about:

The article can be about your memories of MBA, funny and sad happenings in your classes, your favorite and least favorite memories.

It can include a "stat sheet" how many demerits you think you've given and how many people you can remember kicking out of your classes.

It can include nicknames, favorite spots on campus, favorite things to do with your free time here—anything.

We want to give you a tribute for your hard work, and we could not think of a better way than letting you yourselves look back on your years of teaching here.

Thank you all in advance, and the deadline for these reminiscences, to be given either to Gabe Roth, Adam Johnson, or Mr. Jones, is May 10.

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Entertainment

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Millennium Fever . . . A Great Excuse to Party

By Jonathan Tam

Call me crazy, but the millennium doesn't mean that much to me.

I just can't imagine the world coming to an end.

It even seems kind of egotistical for us to say the world is going to end in the year 2000. I mean if we are truly to people of the world, we must recognize that there are other calendars than the one we use. Two thirds of the world (non-Christian countries) won't even blink an eye this

why is everybody making a big deal about this particular new year?

I think I've got it, and, as always, it has to do with entertainment. I can't speak for everybody, but I'll take just about any excuse to party. If at any time we find an opportunity to spend more money on our carnal pleasure, then I say we do it. No offense to doomsday soothsayers, but all

December 31, 1999, and January 1, 2000, mean to me are dates for a major party. (Not that I plan on doing anything drastic that night. No one I know would even think of drinking or disturbing the peace; that would be bad.)

I haven't made any plans for this righteous shindig, but

I'm not exactly worried. Just about everywhere should have something interesting to do. I think it's better to keep my op-

tions open. I hear that Times Square is going to be bigger and better than ever. The more

confetti the better I always say. Some crazy types in Southern California expect to party from December 28th, 1999 to January 1st, 2000. Two million people are expected to go to this major weenie roast that covers 4000

acres and 5 stages with totally tubular bands (www.party2000.com)! But I'd rather be in Washington, D.C., where they'll not only be celebrating the millennium, but also the 200th anniversaries of the Library of Congress and the first meeting of Congress in the Capitol. Talk about exciting!

Wherever I end up, I'm sure that I'll have a rip-roarin' good time. I'll be happy just knowing that while I'm partying, some fool is hiding in a shack in the Appalachian mountains with 10,000 gallons of water, scared of something called Y2K when it's really 4698.



coming year. In China it will be 4698, while in Muslim countries it will be 1420; in Israel, 5760. So

On New Year's Eve 2000, you've gotta party like it's 1999

COMICS (Or, at least, Amusement)

Grit Day at Battle Ground Academy

When BGA Students Dress Funny

So who pulls off *the look* best?

You decide: Harpeth Hall or these girls from BGA ? ? ? ?



"All Good Men must die some day, some just find their ends sooner . . ."

Thanks,
Adam & Gabe



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Flashbacks

1973

**Mr. Klausner,
Class of '73**



Mr. Gaither



Mr. Compton



Mr. Compton (above): Math Teacher, Microbe Football Coach, Microbe Wrestling Coach, Microbe Track Coach, Sophomore Class Advisor

Mr. Gaither (left): Latin Teacher, JV Football Coach, Freshman Wrestling Coach, Eighth and Ninth Grade Track, Freshman Advisor

Election Results for Rising Seniors, the Class of 2000

Class Officers

President:
Johnny Sisk

Vice-President:
Andrew Ellis

Secretary:
Jeff Krones

Treasurer:
Tee Isenhour

**Honor Council
President:**
Chris Camp



Chris Camp and Robert Farringer relax at the Doug Hall Relays the week before the big election

Vice-President:
Brad McDowell

Secretary:
Charlie Ezzell

Assistant Secretary:
Taylor Sutherland

**Student Council
Representatives:**
Mark McDonald
Michael Bass
Robert Farringer
David Pruitt

Patrick Wilson Library
Montgomery Bell Academy
4001 Harding Road
Nashville, TN 37205